

CRAFT CLUB REPORT FOR PARISH COUNCIL 2023.

The Craft Group have had another successful year, with a continuing membership of around 30 members, meeting on Monday mornings, 9.30am to 12noon in the Sancroft Hall.

Our main event of the year was the exhibition of vintage sewing and embroidery, "Memories and More" held in April 2022, together with a display of wedding dresses spanning the decades. We had so many exhibits the hall wasn't really large enough to accommodate them all. It was quite amazing to see items of intricate sewing done in years gone by, and also to find that these skills are well and truly still alive in the 21st Century. . We didn't charge an admission fee but broke even from money raised from selling lunches and some generous donations

To mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, Christine Lindsay, Jean White and Heather Futter designed an album cover and bag in which to keep it. Members of the public were invited to put in a few stitches in the decoration on the bag and club members have also done some of the embroidery. This project has now been completed and is on show at this exhibition. At the Jubilee Fete, the club had a stall and members were invited to show some of their recent work. Also, children were invited to make crown badges out of felt and stick on "jewels". This proved very popular. In December, some members made incubator covers for the Linus Project. These were delivered to the Special Care Baby Unit at Ipswich Hospital.

On the hottest day of the year the Group enjoyed a summer meal at Fire and Feast at Cratfield and in December met for an excellent Christmas lunch at the Swan.

We have had visiting speakers and several members travelled to Willowcraft Pottery at Poringland in September. This involved painting designs on pottery which was then glazed and collected at a later date. At two December meetings we split into groups for "dabble days" where members could try their hands at different skills, i.e. felting, card making and making Christmas decorations of various sorts. This proved popular so another two sessions are planned prior to Easter.

There is a fee of £2 charged for each meeting, which includes a cup of tea or coffee and a biscuit. There is a rota for coffee making, and those making the coffee on that particular day do not pay a fee.

You do not have to be highly skilled to join our group, and we offer a happy and friendly environment on a Monday morning. It is also a tradition to send a card to each member on their birthday..

Jill Blyth Secretary.